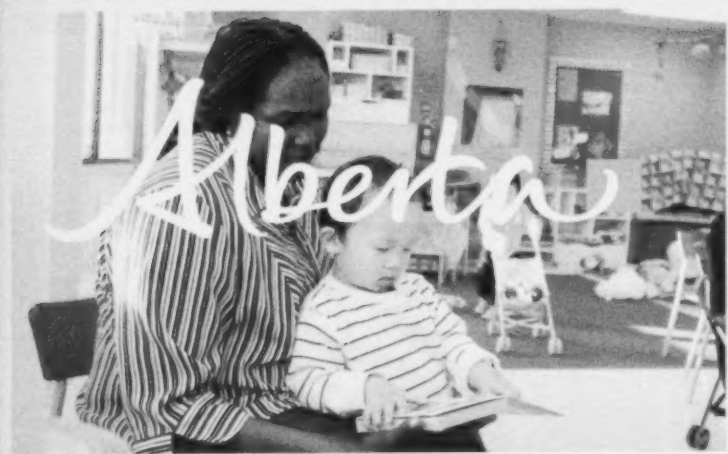




INDUSTRY PROFILES

Health Care and Social Assistance Industry

July 2011

Government of Alberta ■
Employment and Immigration

Overview:

The Health Care and Social Assistance industry¹ in Alberta includes establishments and services such as:

- hospitals, nursing and residential care facilities and out-patient care centres;
- offices of health practitioners (i.e. dentists, doctors, optometrists and chiropractors);
- medical and diagnostic laboratories;
- home health care services;
- ambulance services;
- social assistance services (i.e. for children, youth, the elderly, families);
- community food, housing, emergency and relief services;
- vocational rehabilitation services; and
- daycare services.

Section A: Business Environment

1. 2010 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates
2. Industry Growth
3. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry

Section B: Human Resources Profile

1. Occupational Information
2. Demographics: Age and Gender
3. Wages

Section C: Additional Information

Links to Government and Selected Industry Associations

¹ North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) major group 62

Section A: Business Environment

1. 2010 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates:

	Alberta	Health Care and Social Assistance Industry
Number of employed	2,016,600	219,300
Percent employed in the industry		10.9%
Number of unemployed	140,700	4,400
Unemployment rate	6.5%	2.0%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2010, Statistics Canada

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, please go to the Labour Force Statistics² or Statistics Canada³ websites.

2. Industry Growth:

- Employment in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry is expected to grow on average 2.2% annually from 2010 to 2013.

For more information, see the *Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) Outlook 2009 – 2013, Industry Employment Outlook*⁴ online and the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)⁵ website's industry descriptions.

² See <http://www.employment.alberta.ca/BI/67.html>

³ See <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>

⁴ See http://www.employment.alberta.ca/documents/LMI/LMI-LMF_2009-13_cops.pdf

⁵ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca>

Trends and Outlook

According to Statistics Canada's National Economic Accounts, the Health Care and Social Assistance industry accounted for 5.2% of Alberta's Gross Domestic Product in 2010, up from 4.2% in 2000. This industry was the second largest employer in 2010, behind Retail Trade, and its share of Alberta's total employment increased from 9.5% in 2000 to 10.9% in 2010.

Employment in 2010 was 8.6% higher than its level in 2009. Over the last ten years, employment has increased from 150,000 people in 2000 to 219,300 people in 2010.

According to *Alberta Occupational Demand Outlook 2011-2015*, employment growth in the Managers in health, education, social and community services occupations is expected to exceed 2.7%, the average for all occupations. For other occupations in this industry, growth is expected to be below this average.

3. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry:

Establishment Size	Alberta Businesses		Health Care and Social Assistance Establishments	
	Number of Employees	%*	Number of Employees	%*
Less than 20 employees	605,200	36.2%	62,100	31.8%
20 to 99 employees	565,800	33.8%	55,800	28.5%
100 to 500 employees	309,300	18.5%	33,700	17.2%
Over 500 employees	193,200	11.5%	44,000	22.5%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2010, Statistics Canada

* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Note: Statistics Canada's survey methodology for determining establishment size differs from the one it uses in the Labour Force Survey to determine total employment. As a result, the total number of employees by establishment size will not be the same as total employment in the industry, except by coincidence.

Section B: Human Resources Profile

1. Occupational Information:

Some examples of occupations in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry include:

- chiropractor;
- dental hygienist;
- emergency medical technician;
- registered nurse; and
- child and youth care worker.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the Alberta Occupational Profiles⁶ website.

2. Demographics: Age and Gender:

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender breakdown in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry is as follows:

- women employed: 181,300 people, or 82.7%
- men employed: 38,000 people, or 17.3%

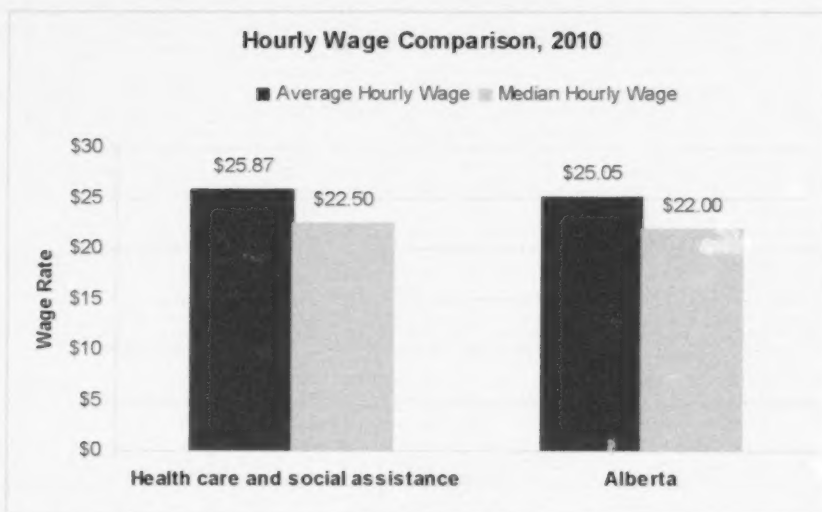
In Alberta, women accounted for 45.1% and men made up 54.9% of total employment.

Age Characteristics	Alberta Employees		Health Care and Social Assistance Employees	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-24 years	314,500	15.6%	20,800	9.5%
25-54 years	1,381,500	68.5%	156,800	71.5%
55 years and over	320,600	15.9%	41,700	19.0%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2010, Statistics Canada

⁶ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo>

3. Wages:



Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2010, Statistics Canada

Note: The average hourly wage is obtained by dividing the sum of the wages of all the employees by the total number of employees. The median hourly wage is that wage below which half the employees earn and above which half the employees earn.

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage			Average Annual Salary
	Starting Average	Overall Average	Top Average	
Cardiology technologist	\$ 25.60	\$ 30.77	\$ 33.03	\$ 62,087
Registered nurse	\$ 30.33	\$ 37.36	\$ 40.43	\$ 72,377
Pathologist	\$ 47.63	\$ 61.68	\$ 80.96	\$ 113,571
Social worker	\$ 26.44	\$ 31.61	\$ 35.03	\$ 62,446

Data Source: 2009 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey

For more information on wages, refer to the WAGEinfo⁷ webpage. For descriptions, duties, required skills and education for specific occupations in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry, visit the ALIS⁸ website.

⁷ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo>

⁸ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca>

Section C: Additional Information

Links to Government and Selected Industry Associations:

- Alberta Health and Wellness
(<http://www.health.alberta.ca>)
- Alberta Health Services
(<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca>)
- Alberta Association of Optometrists
(<http://www.optometrists.ab.ca>)
- Alberta Association of Registered Nurses
(<http://www.nurses.ab.ca>)
- Alberta Continuing Care Association
(<http://www.ab-cca.ca>)
- Alberta Medical Association
(<http://www.albertadoctors.org>)
- Alberta Dental Association and College
(<http://www.abda.ab.ca>)
- Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
(<http://www.aupe.org/my-union/health-care>)
- Canadian Union of Public Employees
(<http://www.cupe.ca>)
- Health Sciences Association of Alberta
(<http://www.hsaa.ca>)
- United Nurses of Alberta
(<http://www.una.ab.ca>)